

Hon. Wm. Laid 10
10 July

Amos A. Phelps
Washington City.
(D.C.)



Received July 7/46.

Mrs. Goodell,

Some progress, I think is making, in this region. — A majority of the Meth. Prot. Church in this village, including the Minister, bro. A. Pennell, are satisfied by the late action of their General Conference at Cincinnati, that it is high time for them to secede. I think they will quit the Sect, as well as the General Conference. Nor will even Wesleyanism detain them.

Bro. Pennell preached up Church Independence & Christian Union, along with Secession for several Sabbaths, & then vacated the pulpit, leaving the minority to find a supply as they could. He comes, along with his brethren who think with him, into our little place of worship, & does his part of the preaching. — He shall probably become one church before long.

Bro. Stone is ousted from W. Bloomfield for his abolitionism. He too, has quit Presbyterianism, and Presbyterianized Congregationalism, & has become as ultra as the most ultra of us.

At a recent Convention for the purpose, he was invited to enter the field as Evangelist & Home Missionary in this region, for the propagation of a pure Christianity. The means for his support would be readily raised — more than half subscribed on the spot. But his feeble health may deter him, & the vacant Church in Bristol (near as) has given him a Call. That Church is Congregational or rather Independent holding no extraneous Connection, & nearly all its members are straight up. — In many other towns, great changes are in progress. A Baptist Church in Canandaigua, mostly abolitionists, along with their Minister, bro. Whitney, ^{apparently} are about pulling down the bars that fence out pedo baptists — much to the comfort of some of our friends there. — A good location for our Missionary Meeting, perhaps. —

Yours truly

Wm Goodell

Al. We want to see bro. Lefson again in this region. How can I reach him by letter?

of the precise object for which the Convention should be called — or whether it should be, like the Syracuse Convention, to set forth the wrongfulness of supporting pro Slavery Missions. — My impressions are that we now need constructive & not more destructive effort. We want to set the right machinery in motion. — Write me on this point.

On hearing again from you, I will prepare a Circular & Call. — If deference to our Eastern brethren should not require us to meet them at Albany, I should prefer some place in Western N. York. The meeting would be larger — more spirited — more progressive; according to my views of Progression. But I will not object to Albany, if you think it best. — Your attendance here would make it more an object for us, if it could be.

Christian institutions on the right basis, at home & abroad, must go hand in hand. Little for the latter can be done without the former. — So the matter is coming to be understood in this region by both the parties. — I fear this is not as distinctly seen yet, at the east. Leavitt's views doubtless, are the prevalent ones, in that region. I gather this from letters recently recd. from that Quarter.

Have you seen the Missionary Sermon of Wm Todd, late Missionary of the Board at Madras, Southern India? — He gives many good reasons for having a new Board, without once adverting to the topics embraced in the Brooklyn Report! The Sermon was printed at Buffalo: tho' not preached before Presbytery, as intended, on account of ill health.

Honeoye, Ontario Co. N.Y. July 7, 1846
(Wednesday)

Dear Mr. Phelps

Yours of 30th ult & 2^d inst. Came to hand this day
and I write, to send by our next (Friday's) Eastern mail.

I am sorry to learn that your health is so feeble.
Bro. Stone, of W. Bloomfield, who saw you at New York, told
me you were feeble then: — & I did not much wonder
at your not writing.

My Indian voyage, many
years ago, cured me of my lung Complaints and perhaps
such a trip as you propose would be of benefit to you.
Much as we need your help here, I know of nothing
you could do that would be more useful than to pick
up and publish the information you propose seeking.
It is just what we want. — And I pray your life may
be preserved for that service, & your health restored by the
process. —

If I remember correctly, we intended our
Albany Meeting to do something about organizing our
Missionary efforts — to inquire whether the Union Missionary
Society in its present shape — or something else in its
stead, was best adapted to the work. — If so, the
Call or Circular should so specify. — The idea of meeting
at Albany was that we might there meet our Eastern
friends. — A good deal of discussion would be likely to
take place. — I am more & more impressed with the idea
that Missionary Boards should be more mediums of transmission,
holding no superintendency or Control.

Let me know whether I am right in my view